## CLAIMS LISTING

Claim 1 (currently amended). A method of manufacturing compartmented file folders, which comprises the steps of:

mechanically conveying to work stations of a production line: file folder components comprising: (a) first and second feedstock folder ~~front and back~~ panels, and (b) ~~at least one~~ a first internal divider; and,

~~at one of the work stations: (a)~~ employing a first, file folder alignment mechanism to mechanically align the first internal divider in side-by-side relationship with a ~~second~~ first of the file folder ~~components~~ panels, ~~and (b)~~

employing a second mechanism to secure one side of an edge of the internal divider ~~edge~~ to a complementary edge of the ~~second~~ first file folder ~~component~~ panel;

employing a third, conveyor mechanism to move the secured together first internal divider and first ~~the~~ feedstock folder panel to a ~~second~~ subsequent work station; and

at the ~~second~~ subsequent work station, employing a ~~third~~ fourth mechanism to secure an opposite side of the edge of the first internal divider to a complementary edge of a second internal divider or to ~~a third~~ the second of the file folder ~~components~~ panels.

Claims 2-5 (cancelled).

Claim 6 (currently amended). A method as defined in claim 1 wherein:

apposed edges of the ~~front and back~~ first and second feedstock panels are taped together to form a hinge extending along a spine of the feedstock folder; and

~~a file folder component to which the first internal divider is secured is one of the feedstock folder panels; and~~

the internal divider edge is secured to ~~the~~ a feedstock folder panel edge with a mechanical arrangement comprising a tape transfer mechanism having the capability of laying a tape segment on the internal divider and the feedstock folder panel with the tape extending between the complementary edges of and lapping onto the internal divider and the feedstock folder panel.

Claims 8-10 (cancelled).

Claim 11 (currently amended). A method as defined in claim ~~8~~ 1 for manufacturing a file folder which has at least two internal dividers.

Claim 12 (currently amended). A method as defined in claim 1 wherein:

complementary edges of the first and second feedstock folder ~~front and rear~~ panels are joined along a spine of the feedstock folder with a first tape segment;

the internal divider or dividers are secured ~~to the second and third folder components~~ with an additional tape segment or segments; and

the feedstock folder with the secured internal divider or dividers is conveyed to a pleating station equipped with components having the capability of forming pleats in ~~at least one of~~ the first and and at least one additional tape segment such that a file folder compartment defined by file folder components joined by ~~that~~ the tape segments can be expanded from a minimum capacity configuration to a configuration of greater capacity.

Claims 13-17 (previously presented).

Claims 18-28 (withdrawn).

Claim 29 (new). A method as defined in claim 1 in which:

the file folder components comprise first, second, and third internal dividers;

the first internal divider is secured on one side and at an edge thereof to a complementary edge of the second internal divider; and

the first internal divider is secured on a second, opposite side of the same edge to a complementary edge of the third internal divider.